



Herald of Good TIDINGS

“Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, ‘Behold your God!’”
Isaiah 40:9

No One Does It by Themselves

Graduations, weddings, and the end of the school year are happening. For the high school graduates a lot of the party will actually be for their parents. It is as it should be. I know one mother who essentially wrote her son's senior English paper so he could walk across the stage and get his diploma. I know other parents who have sacrificed a lot of treasure, time and worry to get their child through high school. The parents know that a high school diploma is not a key to the good life, but the lack of a diploma can be like a curse, cutting a young person off from a bright future and wonderful opportunities. Learning too often happens after school ends and the world is too often a cruel teacher, giving no space for a retest or extra credit.

Marriage used to be a much more communal institution than it now is. Mothers would pick spouses for their children based on compatibility or opposites attract. Fathers made mergers picking spouses that helped the family business or increased the farm output. Still in many parts of the world weddings and marriage are more about the families than the bride and groom.

A lot of kids are making big transitions, they are going from elementary to middle school or to high school. How will their family mark these transitions?

Other big transitions are not so formal. As a young elementary kid I tried riding a bicycle. I failed. It wasn't until I was 10 or so that I was able to ride a bike. Riding a bike was a huge thing. On a bike I could ride the mile and a half into town. On a bike I could go the half mile to a friend's house.

I have been surprised by the lack of children in public places in the summer in Auburn. In Huron, the summer streets were full of kids on bikes, kids travelling to the community pool or the library, kids in the parks, or playing some game that involves running through a whole city block and a LOT of SCREAMING. I do not see many children as I drive around or walk Cabbage.

The rite of passage where I was allowed to wander on my own was a great gift. I did not use it much. I was a bookish child. Also, Errol was low on boys; there was only one boy for every 3 girls in my school. So boys my age were rare. Where I lived from 6-10 there was only one boy within 10 miles and he was a couple years older than me. I think I was a pest. So we did not play often.

When I was 10 we moved to the side of town where most of the boys lived. So after school baseball and football games became part of my life. I think the desire to be with friends helped me learn to ride a bike. I have fond memories of playing in Clear Stream with my friend Malcolm, taking a 60 mile bike trip with my cousin Mark, riding a random dirt road on my Schwinn banana seat bike, and just having time to be alone in nature. All as a preteen kid. Do kids get to just wander around on their bikes anymore? Or was my upbringing a happy accident of growing up in the "latch key kid" era, when every adult worked and kids were left on their own until the parents got off work?

What will you or your children learn this summer? How to tie her own shoes? How to ride a 2 wheeler? How to live with another adult in a way that drives neither crazy? That school is easier than a full time job? That you were right about cleaning a living space, because otherwise things get gross fast? That learning does not stop at the school door? That a wedding is of no importance, but the marriage is what is important? As long as we draw breath we have something to learn or relearn. May God bless the teachers, parents, and communities that teach us what we need to know.

Pastor Brian

CHURCH MEMBERS IN THE NEWS . . .

The following Church members were recently recognized for their service and/or volunteerism.

Marion Woodcock was awarded *Auxiliary Member of the Year 2014 for the Worcester County Council* (The Hiram O. Taylor Unit #189 American Legion). Marion was recognized for her numerous contributions to the Unit where she has been a member for 63 years and has held various offices. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented on April 12, 2014 in recognition of her outstanding service and assistance which contributed to the advancement of The American Legion Auxiliary programs and activities dedicated to God and Country.

Also on April 12, 2014, Donald Temple was named *Worcester County American Legionnaire of the Year* with his widow, Jeanette Temple, accepting his award for his many years of service.

Carole Murray and Marion Woodcock were each honored at the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon held at Holy Cross on May 1, 2014 by RSVP - Retired Senior Volunteer Program. At the luncheon Carole was awarded the President's Service Award given to "Lifetime" Award Recipients (10,000 volunteer hours) and received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from James McGovern and a letter from President Obama. Marion received the President's Service Award to "Gold" Award Recipients for 4,000 hours of volunteer service.

The Auburn Woman's Club held their 90th Celebration on May 4th at the Pakachoag Community Church. Honorees represented a cross section of women who give so generously of their time, effort and talent and who have added to the quality of life here in our community. Among the honorees were: Carole Murray, Marion Woodcock, and Carol Luther for Project Linus; Charlotte Steffen for Project Linus and Health and Immunization; Lee Fenby and Sue Campbell for Project Linus and Walk for Hunger; Diane Moore, Shirley Hill and Jen Bohn for the Pumpkin Patch, First Congregational Church; Joyce Prouty for the Auburn District Nursing Association; and a special honor to Cynthia Brothers for the decades she has served in many capacities for the Auburn Woman's Club.

Our congratulations to all!

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Welcome to summer! This has been a L-O-O-O-N-G winter! As we begin the summer time, I would like to thank all of you who have helped in the Sunday school in any form. If you were one of the "brave" ones and taught a class (or 2 or 3) I am forever indebted to you, and will be calling about next year soon. If you helped with a class or provided supplies, I could not do this job without all of you. Although I seem to always be begging for help, you always come through.

With that being said, I would love to have next year's teachers and assistants set before we leave for the summer. Please pray about this and consider giving ONLY 2 WEEKS out of the 52 available to attend church service. I have a pamphlet on frequently asked questions about teaching Sunday school that will be available soon.

I am overjoyed at how large our Sunday school is growing. As you can see each Sunday, we have quite a few "regulars." In order to keep this growing group, as well as attract new children, we need a strong Sunday school. This means not burning out the few regular teachers, so we need to continually get a new group of "regulars." Cradle roll will also be in need of a coordinator. I thank Judi Taft, Randy Bohn and Jake McPherson for covering us this past year. We now have the service piped into cradle roll so you don't need to miss the service while you help out with the children.

The annual church picnic will be held June 8 this year. As in the past, the Board of Ed will cover the burgers and drinks and we ask the congregation to help with salads and desserts. (Please look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.) We will also have lawn games for young and old alike.

We will be having a confirmation class this fall for any students grade 9 and up. Please speak to Pastor Brian or me if you are interested or know of someone who is.

D.U.C.K.S. Relay for Life team will be holding fundraisers throughout the summer and we welcome anyone who wishes to join us to speak with Shirley Hill or me. Thank you for all that purchased cupcakes for our Mother's Day sale. Our next meeting is planned for June 1st following worship.

May you all enjoy the summer and know wherever the summer takes you, we hope you are safe, happy and healthy.

Jean McPherson, Dir. of Religious Education

**Central Association Meeting
May 4 at Gardner, MA First Congregational, UCC**

The meeting was held in the beautiful sanctuary. They had an eclectic band composed of 3 guitarists, a flutist, and a mandolin player, and the band played well.

There were two main issues. One was a resolution to send to our national gathering, "The General Synod," calling for research to work on cleaning up low Earth orbit. It seems there is a lot of debris, defunct satellites, and rocket remains in space which pose a threat to space travel and many working satellites. I am not sure how a UCC resolution will help, but Rev. Batchelder of Worcester Area Mission Society (the mission group of the Association) thought it might help, so it was approved.

Next was a discussion of funding the Mass Conference. If you have been in a church council meeting in the last year you have probably heard me try to explain how Association and Conference are funded. I will try again quickly. Associations were informal to start. Then a group of Connecticut churches formed an association to raise money to return Africans, kidnapped by slavers and found not guilty of hijacking the slaver's ship, back to Africa. That is called the Amistad event after the name of the slave ship. Since then associations became more formal and charged membership dues. To be a congregation in the UCC you must be a member of an association. Association dues are on a per member basis. Most of Association dues actually go to the Mass. Conference. Conferences came about when the Christian Congregationalists merged with the Evangelical and Reformed to form the United Church of Christ (UCC) in 1957. At that time Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) formerly called Basic Support was started to fund UCC conferences and national offices. There is no requirement for churches to give to OCWM, but, in practice only, the very smallest churches give nothing to OCWM. The only nice thing to say about this system is, "It was the way we always did it." A valid reason for a church to do anything. :-)

The Conference wants to end dues and OCWM, and replace it with United Church Mission (UCM). UCM will be based on a % of a church's budget. Currently, according to conference, we give 4.6% of our budget as OCWM or dues. That is what Conference would ask of us going forward. In this way it would be easier to explain what we are giving to the State Conference of the UCC.

Too long; didn't read? TL;DR - The conference would like to scrap an old dues system and start a new system based on a % of Church budget.

Pastor Brian

Church World Service - Blankets+

Blankets+ (formerly called Tools & Blankets) provides funds to help people in need around the world, including the U.S. Donations provide the means to transform lives and communities when they are faced with an emergency or simply struggling to put food on the table. For over 60 years, Church World Service has worked in partnership with local communities providing blankets, tents, food and other emergency supplies in the wake of a disaster; tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields; wells for families living in drought prone areas to provide clean, safe water to drink and to irrigate crops and gardens; and literacy training and microcredit for women struggling to realize their potential. Church World Service Blankets+ . . . It's about blankets and so much more!

You will find an offering envelope enclosed in this month's *Tidings*. Please make checks out to the church noting "Blankets+" in the memo section and place in the offering plate on Sunday, or mail to the church:
128 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no July or August Tidings. Look for our next issue in September and have a great summer!





Jocelyn Melodie Bohn, daughter of Randy Bohn and stepdaughter of Jennifer Bohn, graduated from Worcester State University on May 17th with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration. She plans to pursue a career in the environmental field. Proud grandparents are Michael and Cynthia Dube and Judy Murphy.

Michael Brothers, son of the late Doug Brothers and stepson to Breyn Brothers, and grandson to Jean and Ed Brothers and Sam and Jean Benoit, graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration from Nichols College on May 10th and has accepted the position of Executive Administrator with Life Care Centers of America.

Steven Cariglio, son of Steven and Cindy Cariglio and grandson of Paul and Debra Pellegrino and Larry and Cherolyn Cariglio, will be graduating from Auburn High School on June 6th. Steven has been awarded a scholarship from the Mary E. Stone Scholarship Fund and the George & Barbara Schmalz Scholarship Fund by FCC's Memorial/Scholarship Committee. Steven will be attending Quinsigamond Community College majoring in general studies. He will also be playing junior hockey for the Junior Bruins.

Gregory Carlson will be graduating on June 11th from Worcester Technical High School. He is the son of Wayne and Jill Carlson and the grandson of Gus and Alice Carlson. Gregory will be attending Johnson and Wales University in the fall, and majoring in Robotics Engineering.

Alyssa Geddes, daughter of Paul and Deborah Geddes and granddaughter of Beverly Geddes and the late Robert Geddes, will be graduating from Auburn High School on June 6th and plans to attend Endicott College in the fall to major in biology/biotechnology. Alyssa was awarded a scholarship by the Memorial/Scholarship Committee from the Jay E. Murray Scholarship Fund.

Corey MacIntosh, son of Barbara and Tom MacIntosh and grandson of Alice and Gus Carlson, graduated from North Brookfield High School on June 1st. He plans to attend Mount Wachusett Community College.

Lillian Grace McPherson, daughter of Jean and Rich McPherson, will be graduating from Auburn High School on June 6th. After working at Monadnock Bible Conference this summer, she will be attending Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy and will major in History with a minor in Children's Ministry and Government. The Memorial/Scholarship Committee awarded Lillian a scholarship on behalf of the Church from the Florence I. Munger Fund and the Scholarship Honoring Confirmands Fund.

CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR GRADUATES!

On April 27th we celebrated the baptism of (now) 7 month old Dominic Richard Escobar. Dominic is the son of Michael Escobar and Amy Cariglio. Proud grandparents are Steven and Cindy Cariglio and great-grandparents, Paul and Debra Pellegrino, and Larry and Cherolyn Cariglio.

On May 11th we celebrated the baptism of Maybelline Ruth Kennen, (now) 8 month old daughter of James Kennen and Mong Nghi Lam.



We pray God's continued blessing and guidance upon Dominic and Maybelline and their families.

Library Tidings by Gloria Whitehead

Without any conscious direction, at least three times I've picked up *How to Hear from God* by Joyce Meyer (gifted by Carole Murray) from our library shelf. However, the fourth was intentional with a prevailing curiosity on global government and a world full of confusion, challenge and a craving for peace. Pastor Brian's sermon on "The Father and the Son" on May 18th also gave a quick blink to the Triune God. Basically, author Meyer expresses how, as parents, we expect our children to ask questions. In the same manner, she hopes that we feel most comfortable talking to our Heavenly Father daily and on all matters of living, to exchange conversation.

It's due date for articles or items for the *Tidings*. There is still much wisdom to extract from *How to Hear from God*. I'm going to end for now, leaving with the thought, "If you listen, you will hear. Ask God to open your ears. You'll learn how to hear God speaking to you through your own thoughts and feelings and others. However, you can't let negative people, articles or television and the like destroy you." I'm in hopes of being able to bring out some of the major benefits of this unusual book at a later time.

Meanwhile, do pick up "Random Acts of Kindness" from the library table. It's a great remedy when you're out of sorts and time. Someone suggested it as a high school graduation gift – a great idea! Below is an excerpt.

"The other day I went with a friend to the grocery store to buy a few things, and we were standing in the express line which, as usual, was about a block long. In front of us was a woman with a gallon of milk and a loaf of bread who was muttering under her breath about how disgraceful it was that she had to wait so long, how the store never had enough checkers, how express was supposed to mean fast, how the clerk wasn't supposed to let people use checks and she could see him cashing a check for some idiot who couldn't even read the sign – it was a constant monologue all the way up to the checkstand.

When she finally arrived, the clerk rang up her total as just over \$4; reaching into her purse, she discovered she had no money. She just stopped dead with an incredulous expression on her face. I was just standing there transfixed when my friend reached over, handed the clerk a \$5 bill, and said, 'I'll pay for it.' I hope the incident makes her future waits a little easier to endure."

First Congregational Church of Auburn
13th Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday August 2nd, 2014

Pine Ridge Country Club in Oxford, MA

12:30 p.m. Registration - 1:30 p.m. Tee-off

\$100 per player - includes golf, cart and dinner!

Non-golfers welcome to join us for dinner - \$35 per person



-----detach here-----

Players:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

Sponsor a Hole - \$100.00

In Honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

or Business name: _____

Make checks payable to: First Congregational Church (write "GOLF" in memo)

Church Finances 101

Dear Members and Friends,

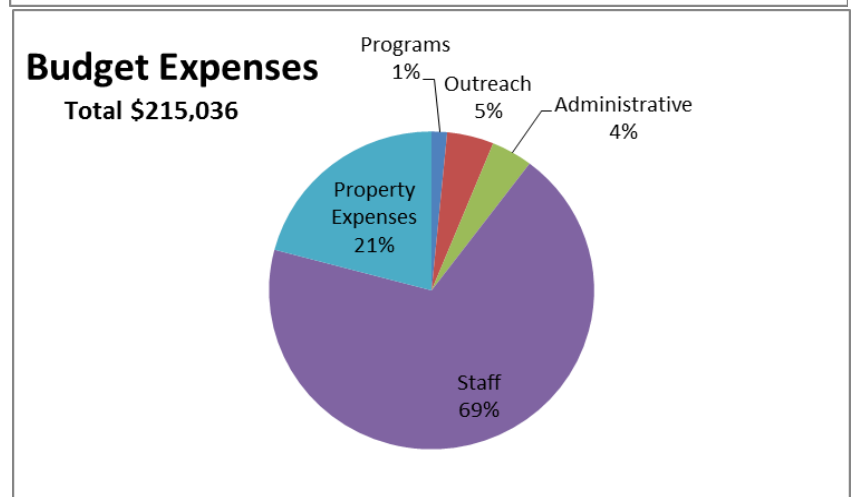
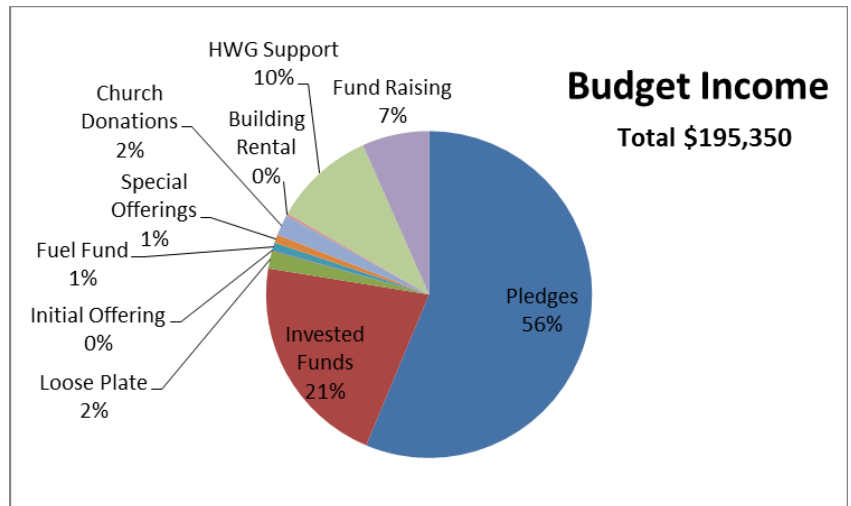
Many in the Church are not aware of our annual budget, especially if they don't attend the annual meeting or receive an annual report. Every January at the Annual Meeting members vote to approve a budget for the coming fiscal year. From a high level the budget is comprised of Income and Expenses to maintain a functioning Church. To the right is a breakdown of the major categories of Income and Expenses for the 2014 budget.

INCOME

As you can see, more than 75% of our operating income comes from Pledges and Invested Funds. Invested Funds is interest that the Church receives on its endowment. The Church's Invested Funds are managed by our Prudential Committee and are invested in mostly fixed income securities to supply this much needed boost to our budget.

EXPENSES

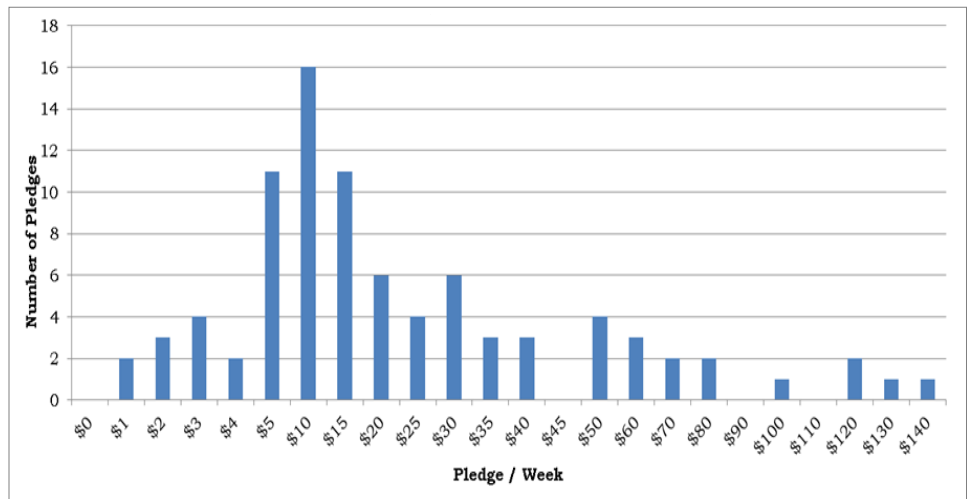
Our expenses are dominated by Staff salaries and Property Expenses. Property Expenses include utilities, taxes, insurance, maintenance supplies, and building repairs. Most of these expenses are fixed. The Church spends very little on our Program expenses as there is no excess money in our budget.



As you can see from the above charts, the Church has a budget deficit of \$19,686 for 2014. We have been operating on deficit budgets for many years now. While a budget deficit of \$3,000 to \$4,000 can usually be covered by excess interest from our Invested Funds, a deficit of \$19,686 cannot. If we need to rely on our Invested Funds to balance this year's deficit, we will need to eat into the principal of our Invested Funds. Never in the Church's history have we had to use principal to balance our budget, and we hope we never will in the future. Once we start eroding our Invested Funds principal it will have a snowball effect in that we will have less money available to grow interest for the budget.

What Can You Do

Over the past 10 years, the Trustees have cut expenses as much as possible to reduce our budget, so our best option is to grow our income. Our biggest source of income is from Pledges. Please consider increasing your pledge if at all possible. To the right is a chart showing the current distribution of pledge giving per week. We are not asking that you give until it hurts, but rather, give until it feels good. If you cannot increase your pledge, please consider participating in many of the fundraisers throughout the year



such as the Yard Sale, Golf Tournament, Fall Fair, Pumpkin Patch or Church Suppers. If you have any questions about the information presented here, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your continued support of First Congregational Church.

~ Nick Stockhaus, Treasurer, Treasurer@AuburnFirstUCC.org

Here We Grow Preschool June Tidings



Here We Grow will be graduating on June 3rd, 5th, and 6th. Spree Day will be on June 2nd. If you have a little one and would like to join us for Pumpernickel puppets show, stop in. He starts at 10:45.

It is a very busy time of the year for everyone associated with **Here We Grow**. With graduation fast approaching, we go forward with many mixed emotions. We will be saying good-bye to some families we have known for a few years. But with that, it is also a time when we will be bringing in a group of new families. At this time, we all would like to say thanks for the support and memories that we have all been part of these last few years.

On May 5th and 12th the 3-day and 5-day program classes visited the YMCA of Westborough for their end-of-year field trip. The weather was great; the children, parents and staff had a great time. It was nice to see the children running and having fun, and the teachers, too. On May 15th the 2-day program classes visited Stowe Farm. The children had a hay ride, visited and fed live animals, planted sunflower seeds, jumped in the bouncy house and played in the playground. The weather was great. I especially enjoy going to Stowe Farm because I know the owner of the farm rescues many of her horses from auctions, and the money we pay to use her facility helps feed those beautiful, safe horses.

On May 14th we had members of the MA State Police, Amber Alert Team Police, and Auburn Police here to fingerprint all 4-year-olds going onto kindergarten in the fall. Thumb drives were purchased through a donation made by the Phillips Fund of Auburn.

At the close of this school year our enrollment for 2014-15 school year has openings in all our classes. We have a very low enrollment of 3-year-olds for the upcoming school year. Hopefully, we will pick up more children during the summer break. If you know of anyone looking for a 3 or 4-year-old spot, please send them our way.

Our three weeks of summer program are full. Week 1 - *Around the World in 5 Days* (6/16-20), Week 2 - *Hiking Through the Rainforest* (6/23-27) and Week 3 - *Beach Bums* (6/30-7/3). The teachers working our summer program are Helen Ethier, Cristi Corey, Anne Coyne, Kathleen Lanava, and Dawn Murphy.

Throughout this school year **Here We Grow** has had a collection jar in our entrance for donations to help defray the cost of postage for the Linus group. All money has been given to Carole Murray.

In closing, I'd like to wish all church members and their families a safe and fun-filled summer.

Dawn Murphy, **Here We Grow** Director



FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

June 1-July 4 is Fireworks Safety Month. June is also Men's Health Month, National Safety Month, and National Scleroderma Awareness Month. June 2nd is National Cancer Survivor's Day. June 10-16 is Men's Health Week, the 23rd-29th is National Lightning Safety Awareness Week and the 27th is National HIV testing day.

July is Cord Blood Awareness Month, International Group B Strep Awareness Month, Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month and National Cleft and Craniofacial Awareness and Prevention Month. July 28 is World Hepatitis Day.

August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Month, National Breastfeeding Month, National Immunization Awareness Month, and Psoriasis Awareness Month. August 1-7 is World Breastfeeding Week. August 11-17 is National Health Center Week.

Continue to think of the closet with the medical equipment. It's been changing lately with items coming and going.

Have a happy, healthy summer, and be careful in the sun.

God Bless!
Debbie Pranaitis, Parish Nurse



The **Fall Fair Extravaganza** is taking shape. Thank you to all who have already signed up and expressed an interest in the fair. That being said, we still need **MANY MORE** volunteers!

With the foot traffic that is generated by the annual pumpkin patch, we anticipate that a **Fall Fair on Oct. 11th** has the potential to be a huge fundraiser for our church! All we need is YOU and your ideas to ensure its success! Please call Cindy Ryan at 508-832-3416 and let her know you'd like to help.

Mark your calendars — On Sunday, Oct. 5, 2014 we will once again be partnering with "Love In Motion" to support "Day for the Hungry." Last Christmas Eve, God did something very special. We were able to participate in the distribution of 5,100 bags of food! This was only possible through the generosity of many churches including FCC Auburn. God has increased our faith and expanded our dream. We are trusting God for \$50,000 to distribute 4,000 bags of food on Christmas Eve 2014 **AND** 4,000 bags of food on Easter 2015.

As we did last October, we will ask you to participate in this mission by purchasing a bag (\$20) which will be filled with food and distributed on those days in Haiti. Many Haitians go hungry each day. "Love in Motion" feels that distributing this food with the gospel message on Christmas Eve and Easter not only meets an immediate physical need, but also offers the opportunity to give a gift in honor of the birth and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus.

In His name we serve,
The Outreach Committee

YARD SALE HELP NEEDED (LISTED IN ORDER OF URGENCY)

- 7am Sat 6-21 A person or persons to be in charge of coffee, donuts, and strawberry short cake booth. Time can be split among several people as this is an all day task. We will not be able to offer this very popular feature with out someone coming forward.
- 6pm Fri 6-20 Carry tables and chairs out to lawn. Approximately 60 minute time commitment.
- 2pm Sat 6-21 Return tables and chairs to building. Approximately 60 minute time commitment.
- 8am Thurs Pick strawberries. Approximately 3 hour time commitment.
6-12 or 6/19? Date 6-12 or 6-19 to be decided on depending on ripening, 6-12 is first choice.
- 3pm Thurs Prepare strawberries. Approximately 2 hour time commitment.
6-12 or 19
- Anytime 6-21 Show your support by attending the Yard Sale. Buy a plant, come for lunch (hotdogs and hamburgers) strawberry shortcake for breakfast? Why not, it's fruit and dairy!!
- At home tasks As you work in your garden, pot and label some perennials to donate to our Plant Sale, set aside some items to donate to the church's yard sale table (nothing's too big or too small), bake some biscuits for the shortcake.



As you can see, none of these important tasks will demand much of your time - a pretty easy way to help in raising some funds for OUR church. You may call me at 508-832-6646 and let me know what you can do to help or sign-up in Fellowship Hall. Please don't make me beg!!

Thank-you in advance and God Bless,
Cindy Dube

NEW THIS YEAR — A CHURCH FAMILY TABLE

We will be accepting up to 6 items from each family that are clean and in good working order. All monies collected from the sale of these items will go into the church's fundraising account. Items need to be delivered to the church the week of the yard sale from June 14th-19th.



The family of **Grace Florence (Lonie) DuVerger**, 92, of Auburn, who died peacefully on Saturday, May 17, 2014 in her home. She was predeceased by her husband George DuVerger in 2013. She leaves her daughter, Lois Therrien, and her husband, Russell, her 2 granddaughters, Lisa Cove and her husband, Eric, and Leslie Wilson and her husband, Peter, and her great-grandchildren, Julie and Stacy Cove, and Emily, Grace and Colin Wilson, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, Henry, Robert, and Edwin Lonie. Grace was born in Newark, NJ; she was the daughter of the late Henry and Florence (Bannister) Lonie. She was educated in Belleville, NJ schools. Mrs. DuVerger worked as a secretary at Bethel Lutheran Church for many years, and later worked as secretary at Auburn High School until her retirement. Grace loved to crochet, and spend time with her family. Her funeral was held at Britton-Wallace funeral home on Friday, May 23. Burial followed in Hillside Cemetery. Donations may be made to the First Congregational Church's Driveway Fund, 128 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501. Please keep Grace's family in your prayers during this time of loss.

"I am the resurrection and the Life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." John 11:25

SERMON TITLES FOR JUNE

- 6/1 "What Is 'Protection?'"
- 6/8 "Will We Know Jesus?"
- 6/15 "The Woman Caught in Adultery"
- 6/22 "Are We Slaves or Are We Free?"
- 6/29 "The Good Shepherd"

Children's Time:

- 6/1 "Walking on Water in a Gale"
- 6/8 "Is it Easy to Do Good?"
- 6/15 "What Are You Doing this Summer?"
- 6/22 "Jesus Is Life or Death"
- 6/29 "Like a Little Child"

Please mark your calendars for

Sunday, June 8th,

and plan to join us as we celebrate our children on

Children's Sunday.

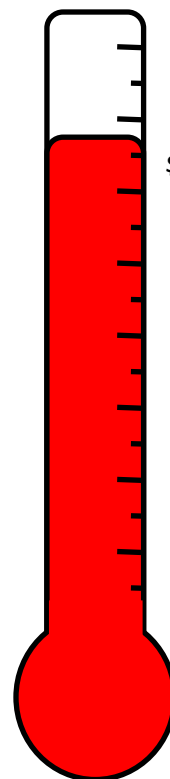
Following our service that day we will be having our annual picnic which will include hamburgers and hot dogs provided and hot dogs provided by the Board of Ed.

We will be looking for donations of desserts and salads, so please look for a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.



Our last potluck supper (until September) will be held on **Tuesday, June 17th at 6 p.m. in the downstairs kitchen** when we'll continue our discussion of the Book of John. **EVERYONE** is invited to join us for any/all parts of the evening.

DRIVEWAY FUND UPDATE



GOAL \$29,685

\$22,815 as of 4/30/2014

After a review of all of the expenses for the Driveway Repaving Project and the current status of "Drive for Driveway" pledges, we have determined that we still need \$6,870 to retire the driveway debt. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Driveway Fund.

Thank you!
The Board of Trustees

2014 RELAY FOR LIFE

Celebrate ~ Remember ~ Fight Back
Sept. 5th - 6th, Lemansky Park, Auburn

On September 5th and 6th at Lemansky Park teams of people will walk the track in the annual Central South County Relay for Life. Highlights of this event include the survivor and caretaker walk and the luminaria ceremony. We invite you to join us. It is not too late to join the D.U.C.K.S.

team (**D**edicated **U**nited **C**hristian **K**indred **S**pirits). For more information contact Jean McPherson at 508-832-5677. The Relay for Life is a fundraising event for the American Cancer Society and we are dedicated to helping the world celebrate more birthdays.

First Congregational Church Fundraiser Oct. 20th at the Publick House in Sturbridge

SAVE THE DATE of October 20th for the supper at the Publick House to benefit the Church. A turkey dinner with all the fixings will be served with two seatings (4:30-6:15 and 6:30-7:30). The total cost of the all-you-can-eat buffet is \$13 with \$4 out of every ticket going to our Church (and another \$4 going to another charity). It is a delicious dinner with dessert, beverage, etc., and we are hoping that MANY people will participate. So mark your calendar today!

We will be starting a new **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

on September 7 for youth 8th grade and up. We will have an informational meeting after worship on **June 1**. If that time does not work for you, please call the church office (508) 832-2845 to arrange another time to meet.

SAVE THE DATE
THE PUMPKINS ARE
SCHEDULED TO BE
DELIVERED ON
OCTOBER 4TH!



TIDINGS is a monthly publication of
First Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
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 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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 or PastorBrian@auburnfirstucc.org

*God's church in Auburn Center
 doing Christ's work in the world.*

Web: auburnfirstucc.org



BULK RATE
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Non-Profit Org.
 Permit No. 6
 Auburn, Mass

June 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OR CURRENT RESIDENT